

Access

Published by the Library of Michigan

March/April 1999 Issue

Volume XVI NO. 5

ISSN 1051-0818

In This **Issue:**

**Search for New
State Librarian**

**Governor
Appoints LM
Trustees**

Meet the Feds

**Law Library
Fire Update**

**1999 LSTA
Awards**

**National Library
Week**

Thank You, George

After 2-1/2 years as Michigan's state librarian, George Needham left on February 5, 1999 for Columbus, Ohio, to begin his new job at the Online Cataloging Library Company, Inc. (OCLC), as its new vice president, members services, on March 1. The Library of Michigan staff and the rest of the state's library community were saddened to see George leave—in the short time he served as state librarian, George did a great deal to improve and promote Michigan's libraries.

George's stellar accomplishments are many. Within the Library of Michigan (LM), George worked to foster open communication for library staff and instituted regular meetings to share news and accomplishments. George believed that people worked best when they worked together as a team and he strove to ensure that such an atmosphere was established at the Library.

George also worked to establish a sense of teamwork outside the Library and around the state. He worked closely with the Michigan Information Network, the Michigan Jobs Commission, the Michigan Department of Education, the Merit Network, MiCHTA, directors of the public library cooperatives and the Regional Educational Media Centers and others to formulate Michigan's response to federal Universal Service Fund (USF) telecommunications funding. Michigan quickly became one of the most successful states in the nation to qualify eligible libraries for USF discounts. The Library of Michigan also stood at the forefront in posting funding information from the USF as each wave of funding became available (Michigan received over \$56 million in USF funding).

In an effort to gather ideas and comments on how to best utilize federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding, George led a statewide series of open meetings to plan for LSTA funds. He also worked to create an advisory group for the pioneer statewide, full-text database program, AccessMichigan. This program, which has become nationally recognized for its excellence, has opened up direct, no-cost electronic access for school, public and academic libraries around the state and uses state and federal LSTA funding. In its first year alone, AccessMichigan users conducted over 3.3 million FirstSearch sessions and downloaded over 500,000 documents.

George's strong work with such groups as the Gates Foundation enhanced Michigan's position in the national library community and will ultimately bring millions of dollars' worth of computers, software and training to update information skills and technology in libraries in some of Michigan's most disadvantaged areas.

Most importantly, George helped to build strong and successful partnerships between the Library of Michigan and other state library organizations that resulted in better planning and collaboration for the benefit of the library community. His hands-on interest in libraries throughout Michigan and regular visits to attend meetings, building dedications and other library events demonstrated his deep commitment to and advocacy of libraries and librarianship.



*Legislative Council Administrator
Dianne Odrobina thanks George for
all his efforts.*

continued on page 5

Search Begins for New State Librarian

by *Dianne M. Odrobina*
Administrator
Legislative Council

and

Wayne Gossage
Search Consultant
Gossage Regan Associates

The search has begun for a new state librarian for the Library of Michigan. During the first week of March, ads were placed in publications around the country to locate the right candidate for what will be a tough, demanding and rewarding job. Librarians at the Library and around the state expect Michigan library services and collections to continue at the top nationally. It will be the job of Gossage Regan Associates and the Legislative Council to choose the very best candidate in the library profession.

What kind of candidate are we looking for? One who demonstrates highly developed management and leadership skills, and an exacting knowledge of leading-edge trends in our rapidly changing world and profession. Someone who can interact

successfully in a complex, dynamic environment. Someone who will reach out to all the libraries and people of Michigan in a positive manner. Someone who will help the Library to continue to provide research-level collections and services to members of the State Legislature, state government and the general public.

The responsibilities of the state librarian are varied and many. In addition to exhibiting financial sophistication, this person will also welcome the opportunity to work with approximately 100 full-time and 50 part-time staff members. He or she will also serve as the chief administrative officer of the Library of Michigan, an agency of the Legislative Council; as secretary to the advisory Board of Trustees of the Library of Michigan; and as a member of the Library of Michigan Foundation Board. He or she will report directly to the Legislative Council administrator, the chief executive officer of all council agencies.

If you would like more information about this challenging and exciting position or would like to nominate a potential candidate, please contact Gossage Regan Associates, 25 West 43rd St., Suite 812, New York, NY 10036, 212-269-3348, fax: 212-997-1127. The deadline is April 30, 1999, although resumes will be accepted until a decision is made.

Governor Appoints and Reappoints LM Trustees

On February 5, 1999, Governor John Engler reappointed 3 members and appointed 1 new member to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees. Denise M. Forro, president elect of the Michigan Library Association, was appointed to succeed Beverly Daffern Papai of Bloomfield Hills, who resigned, for a term that expires in December 1999. Forro, who heads the Information and Referral Center and serves as the contact person for Library Handicapper Services at the Michigan State University Libraries, is from Bancroft. She is also the recipient of the 1998 Dorothy Millbrook Award, which was awarded by MSU's OPHS Disability Resource Center, for her work with the MSU Libraries.

The 3 reappointed trustees are David L. Tate, director of the Van Buren District Library, who represents librarians from public libraries; Bettina L. Graber, vice chair for the Upper Peninsula Region of Library Cooperation, who represents librarians from school libraries; and Frances H. Pletz, retired executive director of the Michigan Library Association, who represents the general public. These terms expire in December 2001. Congratulations! We look forward to working with you.

USF Funds To Michigan Top \$56 Million

The waves of funding commitments from the Universal Service Administrative Fund have finally subsided. A total of 11 waves of information and funding reached Michigan shores (10 regular and a special library wave). Wave 10 brought an additional \$3,397,868 to Michigan schools and libraries for a grand total of \$56,927,838. For more information about 1998 funding or to receive more information for 1999 funding, visit the Schools and Libraries Division of the USF website at <http://www.slcfund.org>.



Meet the Feds

by Carey L. Draeger
Public Information Officer

Have you ever thought about what you'd do if your library or organization had \$4.5 million to work with? Would you divide it equally among the different divisions or allow the administration to use that money as it saw fit? If you decided to divide it, how would you portion it out to everyone? After you'd answered all those questions, how would you keep track of the manner in which the funds are used? What kind of statistics would you gather?

This situation occurs annually for both the Federal Program and Administrative Teams at the Library of Michigan. The Federal Programs Team works to administer funds from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Headed by Naomi Krefman, this band of skilled individuals—Kathy Webb, Beth Krueger, Denise Sachau, Molly Dwyer, Donna Holdridge and Business Services Division Director Janet Laverty—works every year to award LSTA subgrants, which are administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This year, nearly \$1.4 million will be awarded to libraries of all types around the state. “Strong public libraries increase the quality of life in a community,” Krefman states emphatically. “They’re community information centers that are freely accessible to everyone.”

The LSTA Program Team consists of Jeff Johnson, Janet Laverty, Naomi Krefman and Bryon Sitler. The subgrant program underwrites all or part of the costs incurred by libraries to develop multitype services. About half of the LSTA funds are devoted to subgrants to libraries. The other half of the federal allotment goes to support statewide services, such as AccessMichigan. This includes the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL); Serials, Periodicals and Newspapers (SPAN); and commercial magazine databases on the Internet. This year LSTA funds pay for Newsline, a telephone service that offers “talking” newspapers to the blind and physically handicapped.

“Michigan runs one of the more comprehensive or larger subgrant programs in the country,” Krefman points out. “For example, in 1995 we monitored 318 subgrants. The national average that year was 157, so we ranked 6th in the country. The next year we were in the number 3 spot. In 1998 we monitored 308 subgrants.”

Every year about this time the Federal Programs Team reviews all documentation for the subgrants, prepares contracts for those who receive the subgrants, and holds subgrant workshops around the state to help libraries plan for the next year. “There’s lots of paperwork involved,” Krefman points out. “The subgrant program is not for everyone.” This year the workshops were held during the first week of March in Gaylord, Zeeland, Lansing, Troy and Iron Mountain.

In addition to overseeing the distribution of LSTA funds, the Federal Programs Team also collects and disperses statistics through several surveys of Michigan libraries. Probably the most familiar to libraries is the *Michigan Library Statistical Report*, which is produced every year by the Library of Michigan. This information-packed book provides all kinds of data to libraries. Arranged by class size, the publication reports such things as per capita collection expenses and makes statewide comparisons of the number of visits, right down to how many people attended children’s performances. “We also expanded our public library statistics survey to include salary information for several key staff positions,” Krefman says. “They are the director, assistant director, department or branch head, senior and entry level librarians, the computer technology specialist and a library clerk.” To make life a little easier for the libraries, they may now file this information online via the Internet. The team also customizes statistical reports for libraries who request the service.

The Library of Michigan also participates in the Federal-State Cooperative System. Timely and complete reporting by the Federal Programs Team has won them awards at the national level. Every other year, the team receives survey responses from academic libraries and includes that data in the statistical publication. They also compile data for the State Library Agency Survey coordinated by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Sciences and the Census Bureau. “People can use most of this information from all the surveys to advocate for increased funding, more staff, etc. We have a wealth of information here for libraries to tap into,” Krefman says.

Do you want to share in some of that wealth? Krefman suggests you visit the Library of Michigan website at <http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us> where you’ll find among other things, LSTA forms, application guidelines and library statistical reports.



Federal Programs Team members include (back row from left) Naomi Krefman, Beth Krueger, Donna Holdridge, (front row) Denise Sachau and Kathy Webb.

Law Library Fire

by Carey L. Draeger
Public Information Officer

Library of Michigan Law Library employees and other state employees who work at the G. Mennen Williams Building in Lansing were forced out of their offices by a President's Day fire that struck the Attorney General's office on the 7th floor. The blaze started in a copy room. Because President's Day is a state holiday, only a few people were in the building. No one was injured. Initial figures estimated the Attorney General's office suffered at least \$250,000 damage, but it may cost more to repair the top floor. Experts predict the offices there may not open before late summer.

The Williams Building was closed for 2 days; no one was allowed in except fire, inspection and certain building personnel until February 17. Although some employees expected to report on Tuesday, a power outage forced another delay in the return to work. On February 16, the Law Library staff temporarily relocated to the Library of Michigan's main building. Patron calls were forwarded to the Public Service telephones, where Law Library staff attempted to answer them all.

Law Library Coordinator Susan Adamczak was notified at home on Monday when the fire occurred. When she was allowed into the building, she discovered that although the Law Library suffered no water damage, there was a strong smell of smoke throughout and a film of soot over the holdings. Adamczak and Public Services Division Director Susan Nearing worked with Ron Lewis and other Department of Management and Budget (DMB) Property Management personnel to coordinate clean-up and repairs. DMB sent an outside crew to wipe down everything in the Law Library with dry, chemically treated cloths and then fogged the building with a deodorizing agent to dissipate the smokey odor. Once the smell was gone, DMB informed the law librarians that the air handling system was going to be cleaned and filtered to get rid of the contamination caused by the fire.

"All the ranges had to be completely encased in plastic to protect the library holdings," said Nearing. "We used at least 25 rolls of plastic wrap to cover the books."

Over 30 volunteers from the main library staff helped cover the books (above). "It was a fantastic outpouring," Adamczak commented. "They worked at the Law Library from 10 in the morning to 4 in the afternoon." Jerry Irish, the LM mail room coordinator, made sure there was enough plastic wrap to complete the job. Rare Book Librarian Nancy Robertson served as the disaster recovery team leader. Her expertise was invaluable as she helped to coordinate recovery efforts, particularly with handling the Law Library's older, fragile materials.

Once the air system was cleaned, building residents returned to their offices and began cleaning up, except for the 7th floor Attorney General's staff. Law Library staff reopened the library after two weeks. DMB has already tested the air circulating in the building and will continue to work on the air handling system in the months ahead.



MLC Offers Free Trials to Databases for Libraries

The Michigan Library Consortium (MLC) is offering free trials to several web-based databases from April 1-30, 1999. The trials are intended to give you an opportunity to evaluate databases and the option to join MLC group purchases beginning July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000. The database trials are grouped by library type—either Academic and Special Libraries or Public and School Libraries—however feel free to sign up for trials from either group. The current listing of group subscription databases include: ABC-CLIO, Academic Press IDEAL, Britannica Online, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, Chadwyck-Healy, CIS/Lexis-Nexis, Gale, Newsbank, OCLC First Search and Wilson Web.

For more information, contact the Michigan Library Consortium at 6810 S. Cedar, Ste 8, Lansing, MI 48911-6909, 517-694-4242 or visit the MLC website at <http://www.mlc.lib.mi.us>.

continued from page 1

At George's farewell party on the afternoon of February 5, several representatives from library organizations around the state gave speeches and bestowed plaques that all praised George's work. Fran Pletz, as a Board of Trustee member, thanked George for his dedication and hard work to the Library of Michigan. Jacqueline Payne, executive director of the Library of Michigan Foundation, presented George with a bronze leaf that will be placed on the LM donor tree in his name (*see photo*). Over \$2,200 was raised for the Rare Book Collection to honor George's many accomplishments with the Library and library community. Payne pointed out during the presentation that it was the easiest fundraising she'd ever done. "All I did was tell people it was for George," she added.

Thank you, George, for your commitment to the Library of Michigan and Michigan's public, academic and school libraries!



MILLAGE UPDATE: 1998 Year-End Totals

by Jeff Johnson

Deputy State Librarian

Michigan public libraries achieved a success rate of 75 percent in 1998--42 of 56 ballot questions were approved by voters. Fourteen millage and bond issue proposals were voted down.

The last millage vote of the year occurred in Isabella County, where the new Chippewa River District Library (formerly the Veterans Memorial Library in Mount Pleasant) won approval for its first operating millage in a December 21 special election. The 10-year levy of 1.75 mills was approved by 739 yes votes to 510 against.

Late reports from the November general election revealed Monroe County's Berlin Township lost in a second attempt for a township millage to open additional branch library locations there. The November request for 0.125 mill for 2 years was also voted down in the August primary election.

The Lawrence Memorial District Library, a former village library in Kalamazoo County's Climax Township that was established as a district library in July, was unsuccessful in its first millage attempt in November. A 1-mill operating levy had been proposed for 6 years, but this first attempt was defeated by a 2-to-1 vote. The new district library has 2 years in which to secure an operating millage or it will revert to its former status.

The Tamarack Public Library, serving Lakeview and 3 adja-

cent townships in Montcalm County, saw its request for 2.0 mills in November rejected.

An additional ballot question approved in Wayne County in the November general election confirmed the status of the existing 0.64 mill levy by the Detroit Public Library. Wayne County voters approved the new millage limits and eliminated the county's tax allocation board by a 55-to-45 percent margin.

The Wayne County Commission proposed the ballot question to approve a separate tax limitation of 1.4576 mills for the 5 entities combined, which would abolish the tax allocation board. Since only 5 governmental entities in the county have millages subject to review, the tax allocation board seemed obsolete and unnecessary to the commissioners.

As of 1997, 73 of Michigan's 83 counties had adopted similar county tax limitations, eliminating the need for their tax allocation boards. Most chartered local units of government are exempt from the state-mandated 15- and 18-mill limits because of their independent charter status. Proposal A exempted school districts from the oversight of the tax allocation board several years ago.

Affected agencies and their millage limits are the Detroit Library Commission (.6400 mill), Township of Grosse Pointe (.6486 mill), Township of Sumpter (.870 mill), and Wayne County Regional Education Service Agency (.0984 mill). The highest total millage is now set at 1.4576 mills for an indefinite period, or until altered by the voters.

Tech Time Good-bye

by Patricia Curthoys

Electronic Library Specialist



Sadly, this is my last entry for this column. By the time you read this, I'll have moved on from my position at the Library of Michigan to another in Appleton, Wisconsin. I just wanted to take a minute to say thank you for the wonderful opportunities I've had to work with the libraries around the state. It's been neat watching many of you advance in your technology pursuits, to answer your questions, review your grants and help you in various ways as you continue to educate yourself about the endless possibilities libraries have at this time. I've gained a lot of valuable experience here in Michigan, which will be of tremendous help to me in the future. It's been an experience I'll never forget! Thanks again.

New Michigan Laws to Take Effect

by Nancy Whitmer

Law Library Collection Development Coordinator

When you woke up on March 23, 1999, there were some new laws for you to obey. That's the date that over 90 new public acts passed by the Michigan Legislature took effect. Each year the Legislature enacts several hundred public acts (PA), and many of them take effect on the 91st day after the final adjournment of the previous year. This year the 91st day falls on March 23. Here's how a few of these new 1998 laws may affect your daily life.

PA 104 repeals a portion of the law on wild turkey hunting. PAs 108 through 111 restrict the cloning of human beings. PAs 116, 262 and 263 are concerned with personal watercraft safety. PA 213 amends the Public School Employees Retirement Act. PAs 229 and 230 regulate the way that businesses are listed in telephone directories. PAs 234 and 253 change the law on home solicitation sales. PA 297 adjusts the registration fees for snowmobiles. PA 464 prohibits tobacco advertising on billboards and PA 472 is intended to deter the harassment of hunters and anglers in Michigan.

One way to obtain copies of these and other recent public acts is via the Internet at <http://michiganlegislature.org>. Use the Public Act Table for 1998 to get the House or Senate bill number for the act you want. Use the bill number to search for and print the enrolled bill. It is the version of the bill that was signed by the governor and became law.

If you don't have Internet access the State Law Library (part of the Library of Michigan) will identify any public act or bill number you need. Your options with us are document delivery for a fee or interlibrary loan. Please contact us at 517-373-0630.

Daschle Posts Nearly 300 CRS Reports on Internet

by Suzanne Schneiderman

Government Document Coordinator

Public Services

Senator Tom Daschle (D-South Dakota) has placed almost 300 Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports on the Internet at <http://www.senate.gov/~dpc/crs/index.html>. Scholars, journalists, librarians, businesses, citizens and many others have long wanted Internet access to CRS reports. "Though only 1/10th of the collection is available, this is really good news," said Susan Nearing, division director for the Library of Michigan's Public Services. "Hopefully, the rest will follow."

Previously these reports were difficult for the average citizen to obtain. People were forced to request copies through their Congresspersons and the process often took months to complete. On June 10, 1998, the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration advised senators that "with the rapidly expanding use of the Internet, we believe it is appropriate for Members and Committees to use their web sites to further disseminate CRS products. . . . We encourage you to post CRS products on your website." Apparently, Senator Daschle did exactly that—and he deserves our thanks. You may send him an email at tom_daschle@daschle.senate.gov to thank him for placing the CRS reports on the Internet

To view the full collection of CRS reports, visit the Pennyhill Press site at <http://pennyhill.com/>, which sells CRS reports and claims to have nearly all abstracts of all the reports.

Mahoney Children's Conference Rescheduled

by Jacqueline Payne

Executive Director

Library of Michigan Foundation



The Mahoney Children's Workshop Series' first conference for children's librarians has been changed from April 21 to July 14 in order to conduct the workshop in the beautiful Children's Garden at the Michigan State University (MSU) Horticultural Gardens. The workshop will focus on gardens, children's literature, and libraries. Noted author Sarah Stewart will be the keynote speaker and Jane Taylor, former curator of the Children's Garden at MSU, will give practical information on establishing gardens for children and on bringing gardening and reading together to inspire young readers and librarians. The workshop will begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue to about 4:00 p.m. Admission fees have not yet been established but will be minimal, thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Alice Mahoney, the Mahoney Memorial Fund donor. Mrs. Mahoney is devoted to both the MSU gardens and to libraries everywhere, but especially to those libraries that offer children's programming. Additional information on the conference will be available soon through the *michlib-l* listserve and through information sent to libraries. All children's librarians are invited to attend, including those from public and private school libraries. Due to the size of the gardens, attendance will be limited.

The Library of Michigan Foundation is now accepting applications for literacy program operating grants. The Foundation makes grants of up to \$10,000 to adult literacy programs in Michigan. Most grants are challenge grants, which require the recipient to raise dollar-for-dollar matching funds. Innovative grants are made for new programs and need not be matched. Grant applications must be received by May 30 to be considered for funding in this fiscal year, which ends September 30. To receive an application form please call the Foundation at 517-373-1297 or email me at jpayne@libofmich.lib.mi.us.

Genealogy beginners or advanced practitioners will benefit from the 1999 Abrams Genealogy Series Workshops presented by the Library of Michigan genealogy staff and supported by the Library of Michigan Foundation. Attendance is limited to 25 persons per session; this year's workshops are sold out. Topics include "Federal Census Research," "Cemetery Records and Resources," "Vital Record Research," "Genealogy and the Internet" and "Beyond 1920: Current Sources of Genealogy Information." There will be two sessions on how to use *Ancestry.com*.

Take time to volunteer for an organization you admire, whatever that may be: Meals on Wheels, the elementary school your children or grandchildren attend, a hospital, your church, or a local shelter for people in troubled circumstances. If you can, give blood at the American Red Cross or volunteer to help out in the blood donor room. These acts of selflessness help to keep our society together as a civilized community and will do good beyond what we can imagine in the commonplace details of the acts themselves. Volunteering is good for you: a recent study reported by the University of Michigan showed that those who volunteer less than 1 hour a week live longer and are healthier than those who do not. See you at the Red Cross!

Fulbright Librarian Award

by Karen C. Adams

Senior Program Officer

Council for International Exchange of Scholars

The Fulbright Commission in London, England, is offering a special Fulbright Librarian Award for 2000-2001. The fellowship is designed for applicants who are U.S. citizens, hold an M.L.S. degree, have a minimum of 3 years of recent experience in providing a public library enquiry service and who are experienced in the use of the Internet and maintenance of a web site. The person selected for the award will help develop materials and information relating to 6,700 American airmen based in the Norfolk/Suffolk area who were killed between 1942-45. The original collection of books and videos was lost in a fire in 1994, but most wartime memorabilia came through the fire with only minor water damage.

The successful candidate will have a unique opportunity to be involved in the development of a specialized American library service, including building links to a number of libraries in the United States within the context of rebuilding a large urban library that is the hub of a rural service to 750,000 people. The public library and information service to the county of Norfolk consists of 52 libraries, including village shop libraries plus 14 bookmobiles. The total collection amounts to 1.5 million volumes. All the libraries are networked to a Geac 9000 computer system.

The award is for 12 months, beginning September 2000. There is a possibility that the grant may be renewed for a second year. The stipend is approximately 22,000 pounds sterling for 12 months plus round-trip travel for grantee only. A leased car will be provided for which a contribution will be required for private travel. The deadline for this fellowship is August 1, 1999.

The award is offered under the Fulbright Scholar Program between the United States and the United Kingdom and is designed to promote educational and cultural exchange, to enhance mutual understanding and to strengthen relations between the 2 countries.

To receive an application, direct your request to: USIA Senior Fulbright Program, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 3007 Tilden St. NW, Suite 5-L, Washington, DC 20008-3009, 202-686-7878, or you may email your request to apprequest@cies.iie.org. Make sure you indicate your interest in the Norwich award so you receive the correct supplementary information.

Successful Cooperative Retreat

by George Needham

Vice President, Members Services, OCLC

The directors of the state's public library cooperatives, cooperative board members and Library of Michigan staff met at St. Francis Retreat Center in Dewitt on February 3 and 4 to discuss the future of cooperative activities in Michigan.

Nancy Bolt and Sandy Stephan, authors of *Strategic Planning for Multitype Library Cooperatives* (ALA, 1998), facilitated the meeting, which was organized by Mid-Penninsula Cooperative Director Barbara Brewer, Superiorland Library Cooperative Director Suzanne Dees, and Eileen Palmer, interim director of The Library Network.

Several issues spurred this meeting, notably the full funding of PA 89, the growth of networked services, and the trend toward cooperative services across library types (academic, public, school and special). Changing demands on their services and meeting the diverse needs of libraries and library users have created both exciting opportunities and unprecedented challenges for the cooperatives.

A number of ideas came out of the discussions, and these ideas are being synthesized into a discussion document. This document will be shared with cooperative boards and advisory councils, and with Regions of Cooperation (ROC) boards at their spring meetings to solicit further input and to serve as a reality check from the library community.

In June the group will reassemble at the regularly scheduled cooperative and ROC directors' and board presidents' meeting. The results should include a report with several recommendations for building stronger cooperation and better library service for all Michigan residents.

ALA Announces 1999 Newbery, Caldecott Medals

Winners of the 1999 Newbery and Caldecott awards—the most prestigious for children's literature—are Louis Sachar, author of *Holes*, and Mary Azarian, illustrator of *Snowflake Bentley*. The Newbery and Caldecott medals and other awards were announced on February 1 at the American Library Association's 1999 Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Considered the Academy Awards of children's book publishing, the Newbery and Caldecott medals honor outstanding writing and illustration of works published in the U.S. during the previous year.

Sachar's *Holes*, published by Frances Foster Books/Farrar Straus and Girous, tells the story of Stanley Yelnats. The heir to his family's curse of bad luck, Stanley is convicted of a crime he didn't commit. He serves his sentence at Camp Green Lake, a dry flat wasteland where the warden assigns each inmate the task of digging one deep hole every day. Hole by hole, Stanley and his friend Zero dig their destiny.

Snowflake Bentley, winner of the Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book, was published by Houghton Mifflin Company. The book introduces children to Wilson Bentley, a self-taught meteorologist and photographer who lived in Vermont from 1865 to 1931. Mary Azarian used hand-tinted woodcuts to illustrate this thoughtful, rewarding book.

For more information about the medals and other awards presented, visit the American Library Association website at <http://www.ala.org/>.

1999 LSTA Awards Announced

by Naomi Krefman
Team Leader
Federal Programs Team

Fiscal Year 1999 subgrants totaling \$1,378,822 have been awarded to Michigan libraries from Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Every library in the state is also eligible to participate in the statewide project called AccessMichigan, which is funded in part by LSTA funds and in part by a grant from the State Legislature. This project brings the full text of over 1,000 magazines and newspapers, indexes and abstracts, reference books, telephone directories, and health information to public libraries, schools and colleges via the World Wide Web, at no charge to participating libraries.

AWARDS BY FUNDING AREA

Advanced Technology	
The Library Network	\$148,600
TOTAL	\$148,600

Basic Library Technology	
Barryton Public Library	\$ 13,117
Bloomington High School Library	25,000
Branch District Library System	24,649
Hale Area School District Libraries	31,121
Henry Ford Museum Research Center Library	25,000
Holt Public Schools Libraries	98,607
Laker Junior/Senior High School Library	75,000
Marcellus/Wood Memorial Library	25,000
Michigan Jewish Institute Library	24,800
Northland Library Cooperative	75,000
Pittsford High School Library	57,443
Royal Oak Township Public Library	25,000
Three Oaks Township Public Library	25,000
Upper Peninsula Region of Library Cooperation, Inc.	150,000
Wayne County Library, Institutional Services	24,350
TOTAL	\$699,087

Improving library and information services to underserved urban and rural communities targeting services to children from ages 6 through 12 from families with incomes below the poverty level

Hart Area Public School	\$ 15,650
Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative	23,000
Munising School Public Library	17,185
Oak Park Public Library	24,225
Sterling Heights Public Library	25,000
Three Rivers Public Library	10,850
Warren Public Library	24,993
Wayne County Library—Fred C. Fischer Branch	24,206
Wayne County Library—River Rouge Branch	17,975
TOTAL	\$183,084

Internet Training Center Enhancements

Ann Arbor District Library	\$ 44,492
Mid-Peninsula Library Cooperative	33,215
Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative	50,000
Superiorland Library Cooperative	50,000
TOTAL	\$177,707

Improving library and information services to persons having difficulty using the library

Bullard Sanford Memorial Library	\$ 11,217
Grand Rapids Public Library	17,780
Holland Community Hospital Health InfoSource Library	25,000
Macomb County Library	24,993
Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped	23,699
Rochester Hills Public Library	17,953
Sulo and Aileen Maki Library, Suomi College	25,000
Wayne Public Library	16,322
Ypsilanti District Library	8,380
TOTAL	\$170,344

GRAND TOTAL **\$1,378,822**

For a brief description of each subgrant and for more information about the Library of Michigan's LSTA subgrant program, please visit our website at <http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/lsta/lstaprog.html>.

Trustees Corner

by Ellen Richardson
Library Law Specialist



The Internet Policy Challenge

Public library trustees are responsible under state law to adopt reasonable rules and regulations to govern use of the library and personnel concerns. These rules and regulations, known as policies, are enforceable only if they are in writing, adopted by the library board during an open meeting, and promulgated to the public.

Why do libraries need policies? Whenever you have competing legitimate interests, you need a policy. You would not need a circulation policy if you could supply an unlimited number of the same bestseller to everyone who requests it. You would not need a policy about the hours the library is open to the public, if your resources allowed you to keep the library open, fully-staffed, for 24 hours a day. Library policies always attempt to balance the mission and resources of the organization with the needs of the patrons.

One of the most difficult areas of policy development at this time is the formulation of an Internet access policy. As a library board discusses this issue, trustees will review the four legal tests of good policy: legality, reasonableness, nondiscriminatory application, and measurability. Most probably, trustees will be immediately challenged by the requirement of legality. What is legal in regard to Internet access? What are the requirements of Michigan and federal law in this area? These questions may be easily answered in regard to other issues, such as accommodating seeing-eye dogs and other service animals in the library. Why is this such a difficult question to answer in regard to Internet access policy?

Internet access policy puts the public library squarely in touch with free-speech issues. The United States Constitution in the First Amendment prohibits Congress from passing any law infringing free speech. This prohibition has been extended to the states and public entities by virtue of the Fourteenth Amendment and Michigan's state constitution. The federal courts have consistently held that our constitutional right of free speech embraces not only our right to express, but our right of access to the printed word and information. Libraries, by definition, are the premier places for access to information.

The Supreme Court, in a number of cases, has held that adults have full access to speech, except for narrowly defined limits: obscenity, child pornography, and defamatory speech. Those materials are illegal in whatever format they appear. A library board's ability to restrict an adult's access to materials found on the Internet, as well as in print, will be limited to those three categories. However, the Supreme Court has also held that the constitutional rights of minors may be somewhat restricted because there is a recognized interest in protecting children. Most states, following the Supreme Court's guidance in this area, have enacted laws that prohibit the dissemination or sale to minors of materials deemed "harmful to minors." This category of materials is often referred to as being "obscene for minors" and it is very narrowly defined on the state level in order to pass constitutional muster.

In trying to strike a balance between what adults may have access to and what may be kept away from children, the Court has adopted a stringent level of review called "strict scrutiny." In order to pass Constitutional muster, Congress or the state legislatures must show that there is a compelling state interest to be protected by the law, such as the protection of children, and that the means used to restrict the constitutional right is the least restrictive available. This is an extremely difficult standard to meet as evidenced by the federal court's recent decisions on the Communications Decency Act, the Child On-Line Protection Act and library policies in Virginia and California.

So, what's a trustee to do? Certainly you must keep your eyes and ears open to what the courts decide in this area. Listen, too, to the library professionals and your patrons as they express their concerns. Take advantage of educational opportunities in this tricky area. Both the Michigan Library Association and the Library of Michigan will help you understand the issues and to stay current. Stay tuned to *Access*; we'll try to keep you up-to-date.

MARCH IS ♦ ♦ ♦

the month of Mars, the Roman god of war. He is identified with the Greek god, Ares. March was the original beginning of the year and the time for resumption of war. March, or *Martius*, has always had 31 days.

- **March 15** MLA Library Support Professional Conference: I'm Okay . . . I'm Not so Sure About You: Understanding Personal Behavior Styles; 517-694-6615, ext.11
- **March 16** Freedom of Information Day
MLC Workshop: AccessMichigan Basics, 517-694-4242 for more info
- **March 17** MLC Workshop: CAT ME for Windows; 517-694-4242
- **March 19** MLC Workshop: Government Information on the Web for School Libraries; 517-694-4242
- **March 22** MLC Workshop: PASSPORT for Windows; 517-694-4242
- **March 23** MLC Workshop: OCLC Searching Basic; 517-694-4242
- **March 24** MLC Workshop: Rare Books Cataloging; 517-694-4242
- **March 26** MLC Workshop: HTML Boot Camp; 517-694-4242
- **March 29** MLC Workshop: MARC: An Introduction; 517-694-4242

APRIL IS ♦ ♦ ♦

Aphrodite's month. Aphrodite is the Greek goddess of love and beauty. She is also identified with the Roman goddess Venus. *Aprilis* had 30 days until the reign of Numa Pompilius (about 700 B.C.), when it had 29 days. During the reign of Julius, April again was 30 days long.

- **April 7** MLC Workshop: OCLC Searching Basics; 517-694-4242
- **April 7-10** 1999 Council on Library/Media Technicians Annual Conference; 1-909-787-2803 or kitt@pop.ucr.edu
- **April 12** Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative presents Medical Information Resources; 616-657-4698
- **April 21-23** YAD/CSD Spring Institute 1999, Lansing, MI; (734-482-4110 or 517-772-3280)
- **April 23** MLC Workshop: HTML Boot Camp; 517-694-4242
- **April 26-28** Library of Michigan's Loleta Fyan Rural Libraries Conference, Acme, MI; 517-373-2548
- **April 28** MLC Workshop: Cataloging Internet Resources; 517-694-4242

National Library Week April 11-17, 1999

This year National Library Week will be celebrated on April 11-17. Its theme? "Read! Learn! Connect @ the Library!" It is the national holiday for all libraries—a special time to celebrate the contributions made to the country by all types of libraries and librarians. If you are looking for ideas for celebrating this week-long acknowledgment of the great things your library does, visit the American Library Association's website at <http://www.ala.org/celebrating/>. The site also provides sample press releases, public service announcements (PSAs) and free web graphics to brighten up any publications you may produce for National Library Week.



Thanks to 3-year-old Maggie Mae McKelvey, the St. Clair Shores Public Library has a new copy of *Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?* by Bill Martin, Jr. Maggie saved her pennies just to buy one of her favorite books for the library. She wanted other preschoolers to enjoy this classic book.

Thanks to the helpfulness of a Baldwin Public Library librarian, a Grosse Pointe Farms man has donated \$10,000 to the library. Thirty years ago, Stephen Vartanian received help with a report for his high school science class from a library employee. "I don't remember her name, but I do remember her willingness to help me," Vartanian said in a December 25, 1998 article in the Oakland Press. Library Director Leslie Kee said the donation came totally out of the blue. But she added she wasn't surprised Vartanian remembered the library

who helped him 30 years ago. owns the London-based Pacific International Private Financing and es money to libraries he has used in the United States, Europe and Asia. The \$10,000 will be used to create an endowment to support the library's audio-visual



Westland residents who are homebound for any extended period of time will now be able to enjoy the collections of the William P. Faust Public Library. Marney Cooley, outreach librarian, has announced a new service will deliver books and recorded books directly to the homes of those residents who cannot travel to the library because of disability or illness. The Westland Friendship Center will deliver requested items once a week. The library has produced a printed catalog of over 5,000 books on cassette and a separate catalog of large print books. The library will also publish a monthly newsletter to homebound customers to keep them informed of new items added.

The Okemos Library held its 28th annual art show and sale on February 5, attracting more than 60 local artists. The event, which serves as an annual fundraiser for the Friends of the Okemos Library, brings in \$1,000 - \$2,000 a year. This year, the art show began at 5:30 p.m. Saturday with an opening reception and an awards ceremony. A local gallery owner judged the entered works and handed out awards, including Best of Show, first place and honorable mentions. "The proceeds will benefit activities such as children's story hours and summer reading programs," said Carla Class, a member of the Friends of the Okemos Library. The artwork remained on the wall for the month of February, allowing patrons to view and buy.

Mary Peabody, an Indiana native who spent her summers at Walloon Lake, left some \$2 million to the Boyne District Library in Boyne City for a renovation and expansion project. A \$400,000 gift to the Crooked Tree District Library in Walloon Lake will fund a brand-new facility. Both libraries will double in size. Peabody, an educator with a Ph.D. in mathematics, loved libraries and felt books were "especially important for children," said Boyne District Library Director Nannette Miller. Shortly before her death in 1991 at the age of 74, Peabody established the philanthropic foundation that made the donations to the libraries. The only strings attached to the large bequests are that the libraries must raise money for endowment funds to cover additional staff and costs the expansions will create. "This is really wonderful," said Claudia Cullen, director of the Crooked Tree District Library. "We could never have done this on our own."

State Librarian

Vacant

Deputy State Librarian

Jeff Johnson

Public Information Officer

Carey L. Draeger

Graphic Design /Layout

Marnie M. Childs

Contributing Writers:

Karen Adams, Patricia Curthoys, Deborah Gallagher, Wayne Gossage, Jeff Johnson, Naomi Krefman, Janet Lavery, George Needham, Dianne Odrobina, Jackie Payne, Ellen Richardson, Suzanne Schneiderman, Nancy Whitmer

Legislative Council

Senator Dan L. DeGrow, Senate Majority Leader

Representative Charles R. Perricone,

Speaker of the House

Representative Patricia Birkholz

Senator John D. Cherry, Jr.

Senator Joanne G. Emmons

Representative Michael Hanley

Representative Kwame Kilpatrick

Representative Bruce Patterson

Representative Andrew Raczkowski

Senator Kenneth Sikkema

Senator Virgil Clark Smith

Library of Michigan Board of Trustees

Linda McFadden, Chair; Thomas J. Moore, Vice Chair;

Maureen Derenzy; Denise A. Forro; Bonnie A.

Gasparini; Bettina Graber; Thomas Kelly, State

Representative (D-Wayne); Dianne M. Odrobina,

Legislative Council Administrator; Lois S. Pawlusiak;

Frances H. Pletz; John J. H. Schwarz, M.D., State

Senator (R-Battle Creek); Alma Wheeler Smith, State

Senator (D-Salem Township); David L. Tate

Library of Michigan Foundation Board of Directors

Albert F. Zehnder, President; Michelle Engler,

Vice President; Pamela DeVos, Secretary; Frank D.

Stella, Treasurer; Carl English; Thomas W. Lambert;

Richard D. McLellan; Dianne Odrobina; Frances H.

Pletz; Kelly Rossman-McKinney; Jack Robinson

Access (ISSN 1051-0818) publishes information about the Library of Michigan and its activities plus other materials of interest to the Michigan library community. Please direct comments or questions to:

Carey Draeger**Public Information Officer**

Library of Michigan

P.O. Box 30007

717 W. Allegan St.

Lansing, MI 48909

Phone 517-373-5578

or fax 517-373-5700.

Email: cdraeger@libofmich.lib.mi.us

**Would you like
to receive
Access ?**

**Return this form to:
Library of Michigan,
Public Information Office,
717 W. Allegan St.,
P.O. Box 30007
Lansing, MI 48909**

Name

Position

Company

Business Address

City

State

Zip



**Library of
Michigan**

**P.O. Box 30007
717 West Allegan Street
Lansing, MI 48909-7507
<http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us>**